

BARNEY FRANK  
4TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

2252 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2104  
(202) 225-5931

29 CRAFTS STREET  
SUITE 375  
NEWTON, MA 02458  
(617) 332-3920

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC**

558 PLEASANT STREET  
ROOM 309  
NEW BEDFORD, MA 02740  
(508) 999-6462

THE JONES BUILDING  
29 BROADWAY  
SUITE 310  
TAUNTON, MA 02780  
(508) 822-4796

February 11, 2010

Chuck Turner  
Boston City Councilor  
One City Hall Square  
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Councilor Turner,

I very much agree that we should be increasing federal funding for schools, among other things. One way to do this is through bonding authority which I know my colleague Charlie Rangel is working on, but I am in agreement with you that federal grants are also required. But I do not think it is possible to use TARP money in this regard. For one thing, the budgetary impact for this is no different than the budgetary impact of spending the money directly. This leads us to the issue of where to get it. And as I write this to you, I am in the process of beginning my organizational work to push for substantial reductions in the proposed military budgets, not just this year, but going forward. I am generally supportive of President Obama, but I think he has made a mistake in his budgetary priorities this year by exempting defense from a freeze. More importantly, we should begin now a serious effort to rethink America's worldwide commitments. I believe we are substantially overcommitted in the world, and we are engaged in activity that not only does not advance our security, but in many ways undermines it because it spends that money in ways that simply makes us less able to achieve reasonable goals. And as a practical matter, given the federal deficit, until we are able to make some substantial reductions elsewhere, providing funding of the magnitude you discuss won't be close to having the votes to pass in Congress. So as I said, while I am supportive of this and will continue to push for more federal funding for state and local governments in a variety of areas, in part to deal with this recession, my major effort going forward will be to begin organizing to make the substantial reductions in the claims the Pentagon budget is making on us because absent that, no other efforts will succeed.



BARNEY FRANK  
Member of Congress